

# For the LITTLE ONES

## STRANGE RECOVERY OF BOY

Letter of Sympathy From Walter Johnson, Noted Pitcher, Works Miracle With Washington Lad.

Warren A. Slee, thirteen years old, lay sick for weeks, and, according to a Washington dispatch, physicians said they did not think he would recover. Then the lad went into delirium and talked of Walter Johnson, the "speed king" among the pitchers of the American league. He had been the boy's idol, the man of men before whom this lad had stood secretly in awe, and when the mind was free the idol of his worship spoke to him.

When the team came back to Washington from its western trip, a member of the boy's family had intuitive sense enough to seek out the pitcher and tell him what the doctors said. Naturally Mr. Johnson wanted to go to the boy's bedside, but the physicians said no, that the excitement would be fatal.

So he wrote this letter, and it was read to the boy in an interval of delirium:

"My Dear Warren—I take pleasure in sending you herewith one of the baseballs used on our western trip, and hope that you will soon have the opportunity of using it with your friends."

Pills, powders and surgery had failed, but an idol worked another miracle. As if touched by the gods of old, there was an immediate change for the better, and within a remarkably short space of time the boy left the hospital and was able to use the baseball. The primitive mind had been allowed to work.

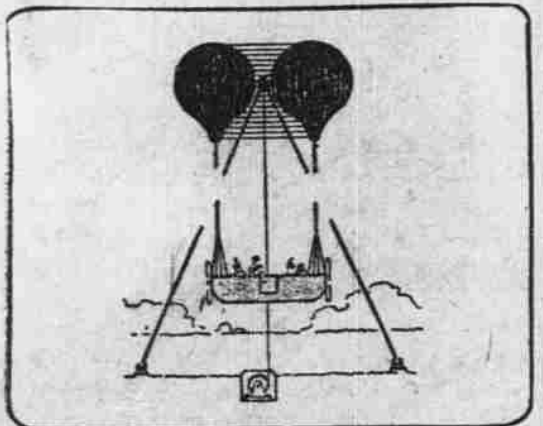
Many noted writers have tried in vain to describe the psychology of miracles such as these, remarks the New York Sun. Kipling and his "Brushwood Boy," Kenneth Grahame and his "Golden Age," have essayed to explain the mind of boy, but it can not be done. All that we know is, as Thackeray says, that every boy at a stage in his life has some idol. Of course, the idols change, eventually becoming feminine. Yet if our learned uplifters would seek to learn the name or nature of each boy's idol, and work through it, instruction in moral hygiene and eugenics would become obsolete. That way progress lies. If an idol can save a life it can do other things, for it represents the boy's ambition at its best and most impressive period.

And what matter the form the idol takes? It may be, as it often is, a locomotive engineer, a drum major, a baseball pitcher; through the hero worship of these exalted beings the boy's salvation lies. Text books on biology were never intended for the primitive mind.

## BALLOON-SUPPORTED SWING

Ingenious Device, Patented in England and Germany, Has Car Suspended From Huge Bags.

This ingenious swing, recently patented in England and Germany, has a car suspended from two balloons, which are held captive by ropes fast-



Balloon-Supported Swing.

tened to anchors. The swinging motion is produced by propellers fitted to the car, and the car can move in curves within the same space inclosed by the anchor ropes. To permit passengers to enter the car, the balloons are pulled down by means of the central cable, which is wound up on a drum.

## Smallest Inhabited Island.

The English island on which the Eddystone lighthouse stands is the smallest inhabited island in the world. At low water it is thirty feet in diameter; at high water the lighthouse, whose diameter at the base is 26 1/2 feet, completely covers it. It is inhabited by three persons. It lies nine miles off the Cornish coast and fourteen miles southwest of Plymouth breakwater. Flatholme, an island in the Bristol channel, is only a mile and a half in circumference, but, consisting mostly of rich pasture land, supports a farmhouse, besides the lighthouse, with a revolving light 156 feet above the sea.

## His Manifold Aspect.

Small Boy—Mummy, it is really true that the devil has horns and a club foot?

The Mother—Ah, my dear, sometimes the devil appears in the shape of a very handsome and charming young man.

Small Boy (pitifully)—Oh, mummy! you're thinking of Cupid—London Punch.

## MACAW IS LOVER OF MUSIC

On Hearing Gramophone Beautiful Bird Gives Convulsive Start and Then Begins Cack Walk.

Most of the birds in the aviary at the New York zoo took no interest in the gramophone, but there was a big macaw, a beautiful creature, dressed in blue, who went crazy with the first note. As soon as it sounded the macaw gave a convulsive start, and then began to dance about his cage. This expression of his emotions was too limited, and he flew to the bar that stretches across his cage and began a cack walk. There was no mistake about it—it was a cack walk. The music lent itself to that form of dance, and the macaw lifted his feet



Macaw Trying to Sing.

and paraded around the bar in exact measures that have been made familiar by countless strutting Afro-Americans. Then, tiring of this, the macaw turned to face the music and began beating his wings in time to the music. The macaw bent himself almost double across his rod or bar and distended his body in rhythmic motions to the dance music that was being played. Then he tried his skill at singing. He listened attentively, with his head bent on one side, until he discovered that the simple tune that was being played was in regular measures, and then he undertook to express his musical appreciation by butting in with a chorus at the end of each line.

## NOT EASY OF PRONUNCIATION

Foreigner Meets With Many Difficulties in Efforts to Understand Peculiarities of Words.

It is hard for the person to whom English is his native tongue to realize what a struggle the foreigner has to understand some of the peculiarities of our spelling and pronunciation. One foreigner gives the following description of his first lesson in an English class:

We have been given a book to learn the letters. I arrive at the class, having learned them perfectly. Soon, in the course of the lesson, we have the word l-o-w. "Love," I pronounce it, thinking the w has the sound of v.

"No; it is pronounced 'lo,'" says the teacher.

"Then why is the w there?" I inquire, mystified.

"It is there because that is the way the word is spelled," responds the teacher; "but it is silent. Never mind why; it is sufficient to know that it is there."

Before long we come to n-o-w.

"Pronounce it," says the teacher.

"No," I reply.

"Why will you not?" she asks me.

It is some time before she understands that I am trying to pronounce the word when I say "No." Then she declares that although l-o-w is lo, n-o-w is now.

"If you want to make it no," she explains, kindly, "you put k before it."

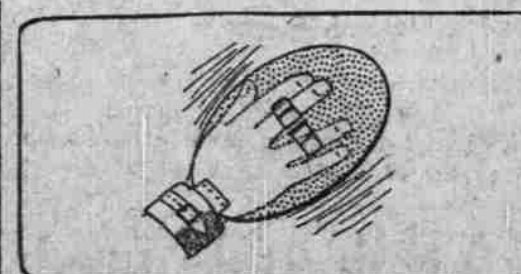
You may believe I am bewildered. However, I memorize that n-o-w is now. The next word is s-n-o-w. I pronounce it like now with an s before it. The teacher laughs. The w is again become silent, apparently for no reason, and the word is called sno.

But that is not all. Later I find that if you drop the n from snow you can pronounce it whichever way you like!—Youth's Companion.

## DEVICE HELPS IN SWIMMING

Paddle Attachment for Hands Aids Swimmer in Getting Over Water—Blade is Slightly Curved.

A paddle attachment for the hands, designed as an aid for swimmers, is shown in the illustration. The blade or paddle is attached to the wrist by a flexible strap and to the third and



Swimming Device.

fourth fingers by means of flaps. The blade is slightly curved longitudinally in order to conform with the outline of the palm.

## Tommy's Impending Promotion.

"Well, Tommy," said the father of a six-year-old youngster, "how are you getting along at school?"

"Bully!" rejoined Tommy. "Guess the teacher is going to promote me."

"What makes you think so?"

"She said today that if I kept on at the rate I was going I'd soon be in the criminal class," explained Tommy.

## Lot's Question

By REV. PARLEY E. ZARTMANN, D.D.

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TEXT—Is it not a little one?—Genesis 19:20.



Though Lot lived in the dawn of human history and in a far-away land, he is a modern character and seems like a citizen of our own community. So frequently do we meet men of similar character and conduct. He esteemed silver of more value than a soul, and the variety and excitement of life in

Sodom to dwelling in peace and quiet in the tents with Abraham. He is an illustration of the swift descent of the soul into the vortex of sin. He got into Sodom, which was not evil necessarily, but then Sodom got into him, and that is evil always. We know from the record that it was a wicked town, full of sin and abomination, so wicked that even the pleading of righteous Abraham, the friend of God, could not save it; though Lot was saved, yet so as by fire.

Lot's question was asked as he was being led out of the city by the messenger from God. It was a crisis day. The men plead with Lot to bring his family out with him; to his sons-in-law he seemed as one that mocked, so useless was his testimony. The angels constrained Lot to flee with his wife and two daughters. "But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters, Jehovah being merciful unto him; and they brought him forth, and set him without the city."

Escape to the mountains, lest thou be consumed." But Lot does not want to go all the way in obedience, and as he comes to Zoar he says, "Behold now, this city is near to flee unto. Is it not a little one? Oh let me escape thither."

How often have we asked Lot's question about our life, when God has given some clear command. Something is under sentence, we know it, but we think it unimportant. Is it not a little one? For example: lack of love, irritability, worldliness, a sharp tongue, falsehood, uncleanliness, grieving the Holy Spirit, lack of forgiveness or apology, unconcern about our own souls. You excuse these; you palliate them; you laugh at them; you have them yourself, and encourage those who do them. You say, "Is it not a little one?" And many of your fellow-men are as unconcerned and indifferent as you are.

But God—let me pause to think of him—calls these things sin. He says these things are fit for destruction and this warning to you has been timely, ample and urgent. You make light of sin, but God's just judgment outweighs your selfish opinion prompted by carnal desires. No sin is small in his sight, and he knows the full measure and meaning of it. This little one may be the seed of a vast and vicious brood. Beware of any sin. Fear it, hate it, flee from it. Say "No" to sin. Burn the witches which seek your destruction. More—it is an awful thing to have any known sin and be determined to keep it.

You ask about your pet sin, as Lot did about Zoar. Yes, God did spare the city, but he does not spare sin. He knows what it is and what it means, toward God and toward men. He knows what it does—robs of peace, shuts the soul out from God, makes cowards and makes tools for Satan, brings helplessness, hopelessness and death. He knows what sin costs—Christ and Calvary, for Christ was manifested to take away sin; is he doing it in you? Can you face these facts and then stand up and say, "Is it not a little one?" You may make a mock of sin now, but what will you say in that day when the Judge will be on the throne?

And we know how little influence, power and happiness people have who cling to their sins and who refuse to obey the command of God to escape to the mountain. This weakness of testimony appears in the home, in the church, and in the community. The world has no use for a sinful member of the church. It finds fault, it cries shame, and it stays away from the church, from Christ and from heaven. Are you responsible for any such? Do you meet complaint, criticism or censure with "Is it not a little one?" God pity you!

These things ought not so to be. They need not be so. "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus." Grace enough for all, and free. Grace for salvation, for keeping, for perfection in the presence of Jesus at the last. "By grace are ye saved."

Do you not see how great and grievous a thing sin is? Do you not want to come into right relations with God? I declare emancipation from that sin, by Jesus Christ, who is able to save unto the uttermost. Don't stay in slavery, but come out into the large place provided by Jesus Christ.

## EXCELLENT HINTS TO CUCUMBER GROWER



The White Spine Type of Cucumber—The Most Popular Grown in America.

(By BESSIE L. PUTNAM.)

If the ground was well fertilized before planting the seeds, there will be but little trouble through plants dwindling in the hot weather, providing the soil is kept light.

Much of the trouble laid to drouth comes through plant starvation. The cucumber is such a rank grower that it exhausts the fertility of the soil very quickly, unless some reserve food is provided.

If you have not made due provision for this in the planting, it may still be easily done by digging a large hole between each four hills, and filling this with the fertilizer, mixing it as much as possible with the soil.

Rains will wash a part of the fertility down among the roots, and the plants will thus find a source of constant renewal.

This will keep them growing, and in vigorous condition throughout the season, and the fruit formed under these conditions will lack the bitterness which we are accustomed to expect from the August cucumber.

If the little striped squash bug appears, it can be hand-picked early in the morning, or late at night, but when the sun is shining it is always alert, taking wing at the slightest disturbance. Look for it in clusters on the under side of the leaves, and at the tips of the branches.

It is most easily managed by tapping the vines gently and holding a shallow pan underneath to catch the beetles as they fall. They can then be transferred to a pail of water containing a little kerosene, and may be trusted to remain there until one is ready to make a permanent disposal of them.

Two crops of this beetle appear during the summer, but the later

brood, which does not appear until August, when the leaves have become comparatively tough, do no damage.

Pick the cucumbers regularly every day, being careful not to bruise the vines in the process.

If a crooked or deformed specimen starts, pick it when small and thus save the plant energy for a better purpose.

Keep the cucumbers picked, even if you do not have a market for them at all times. Later, there may be a demand, and if you quit picking the large ones will quickly sap the life from the vines.

It is questionable whether or not it pays to raise your own seed, with the professional growers furnishing it so cheap. The process of ripening a single cucumber is an exhausting one, and there are always some that escape until they are too large for slicers and one or two of these may be saved, the rest being promptly dispatched for sweet pickles.

If you feel that the vines must be watered during the drouth, do it thoroughly. Surface watering only calls the roots upward, where they are more quickly affected by the heat.

If threatened with blight, spray with Bordeaux mixture in proportion of three ounces to a gallon of water. In a large patch this will be found the better way to fight the squash bug, though where the plot is only for family use the hand picking is preferable.

When the first frost comes it will be well to protect the vines with papers, straw or pieces of old carpet; for usually after this initial frost there are some weeks of fine weather in which the vines will continue to bear.

## SOW CLOVER SEED IN FALL IS BEST

If Ground Is Not Properly Prepared Failure Is More Than Likely to Follow.

(By H. UNDERWOOD.)

Some farmers think that fall is the best time in which to sow clover seed, while others are equally as sure that spring is the best. If the right kind of seed is provided and the seed bed properly prepared, the seeding may be successfully done either in the spring or in the fall. If, however, poor seed is sown and the ground is not properly prepared, there is liable to be a failure, no matter when the work is done.

I have had success in sowing both in the fall and in the spring. I cannot see much difference. Fall sowing is generally preferable, because it can be done at a time when there is not so much rush work on the farm. This being true, a better job can be done, and, consequently, a better stand will be the result.

When I intend to sow clover in the fall, I plow the ground about the middle of August. About ten days after being plowed it is harrowed thoroughly and leveled with a long float. This float is made similar to a road drag and, in passing over the field, it levels the ground very smoothly. Either in the spring or fall seeding this float should be used.

In about a week after the ground has been harrowed and leveled with the float, it is worked again with a harrow, followed by a light plow. Then I sow the plat to rye, placing on about three pecks to the acre, and harrow the ground twice, once each way. After this is done, I sow the clover seed at the rate of fifteen pounds to the acre, and give the ground one light harrowing.

## Farm Help.

The reason some farmers cannot afford to keep a hired man is because they do not know how to manage their business to make it pay. I have seen farmers with only 20 acres, who kept two hired men all the season and one the year around.

Then I have seen men who owned 100 acres who could not afford to keep one. It's all in knowing how to make the soil give up every dollar of profit there is in it. It's a poor farmer who cannot pay a man \$30 a month and make a dollar a day profit from his work. Some of them make three or four times as much.

## Little Unseen Workers.

Earthworms have a special duty, and they perform it. The numberless millions of them scattered far and wide, unseen and so obscure. They have created all the loam and all the arable land of the whole globe. They pass through their bodies the fallen leaves and decaying vegetable matter and by their labor render cultivation and harvesting possible. When one kills an earthworm an agricultural laborer of the most respectable class is destroyed.

## GETTING RID OF LAYING WORKERS

Plan Given as Result of Many Experiments in the Past Two or Three Years.

It is not difficult to cure a colony of laying workers if they are taken soon after they have begun their work—that is, within four or five days after the first eggs have appeared. If a couple of frames of young brood, with the adhering bees, are given, queen-cells will almost invariably be started. It is well not to allow these to hatch, for the queen will almost certainly be inferior, so they may be replaced after two or three days by a ripe cell. A queen will often be accepted at this stage, but I have found introduction risky.

But when the laying workers have been allowed to go for ten days or more, so that the combs are filled with drone brood in all sorts of scattering stages, a cure may be said to be impossible, so far as making the colony of any use within a reasonable time. Under these circumstances the bees will seldom accept a queen if offered in any usual way, and the combs are too full of worthless brood any way to allow a queen to lay.

The result of a good many experiments in the past two years has led me to fix on the following plan, which has never yet failed me. A two-frame nucleus is made from a normal colony, and a queen introduced, or a very weak colony may be used instead of this nucleus, if there is one which needs strengthening. The laying-worker colony is set on a bee-escape board over the nucleus. That is all. In the course of four or five days, four-fifths of the abnormal bees will have gone down, one by one, and will have united themselves quietly with the nucleus. The few bees left above I have always fancied to be the laying workers themselves; but they do no harm if knocked out on the grass. The sealed drone brood is then uncapped, and left to chill over night. It may then be given back to the bees, which will clean out the dead larvae.

## Best Time to Sell.

It is generally conceded that the best time to sell chickens is from the first of January to the first of November. Everyone seems to want to sell during November and December, and consequently the market is always overstocked at that time. Sprague says if possible chickens should be marketed before the first of November, and if not they should be held until after the holiday in order that the best prices may be secured. This, of course, refers only to sending to an open market, and does not apply to any private custom.

## A Time-Saver.

Where a sufficient amount of manure collects around the stalls in one night to form a fair load, much time, labor and fertilizing juices will be saved by hauling it out to the fields every morning.

## Temperance

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

## AWFUL RESULTS OF LIQUOR

Moral Enemy of Peace and Order, and Despoiler of Men and Cloud That Shadows Faces.

Tonight it enters a humble home to strike the roses from a woman's cheeks and tomorrow it challenges this republic in the halls of congress. Today it strikes a crust from the lips of a starving child and tomorrow levies tribute from the government itself.

There is no cottage humble enough to escape it; no palace strong enough to shut it out.

It defies the law when it cannot co-erce suffrage.

It is flexible to cajole but merciless in victory.

It is the moral enemy of peace and order, the despoiler of men and terror of women, the cloud that shadows the face of children, the demon that has dug more graves and sent more souls unshriven to judgment than all pestilences that have wasted life since God sent the plagues to Egypt and all the wars since Joshua stood before Jericho.

It comes to ruin, and it shall profit mainly by the ruin of your sons and mine.

It comes to mislead human souls and to crush human hearts under its rumbling wheels.

It comes to bring gray-haired mothers down in shame and sorrow to their graves.

It comes to change the wife's love into despair and her pride into shame.

It comes to still the laughter on the lips of little children.

It comes to ruin your body and mind, to wreck your home, and it knows it must measure its prosperity by the swiftness and certainty with which it wrecks this world—Henry W. Grady.

## COLLEGES URGE TEMPERANCE

Movement to Rule Out Intoxicating Liquors at Banquets Characterized as Important Step.

The effort being made by friends of the University of California to have passed by the student body an amendment ruling out all intoxicating liquors from the officially recognized banquets and other social functions, is in accordance with a movement which Dr. David Starr Jordan characterizes as "the most important forward step in American universities."

The large state universities, such as Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Indiana, do not serve liquors at their class or officially recognized student banquets, and however much intelligent American citizens may differ as to the best methods of prohibiting or regulating the liquor traffic no conscientious man or woman can fail to recognize the absolute folly of nullifying the work of the college or the university by permitting temptation in the form of alcoholic drinks to be placed in the way of the students.

## DRINKERS ARE NOT WANTED

Activity of Railroads in Promoting Total Abstinence Among Employees is Illustrated.

The following instance illustrates the activity of railroads in looking after the observance of the total abstinence rule: An official of a western railroad suddenly appeared in the yards of the road in an Illinois town and began an examination, commencing on the engineer.

"Let's smell your breath," he said. He sniffed and declared the engineer had been drinking.

"Sure," replied the engineer. "I have had four or five beers."

"Go home," the official told him. "We don't want men to go to work if they have had liquor to drink. If ten drinks make a man drunk, one drink makes him one-tenth drunk."

## HE PREFERRED A POOR TRADE

Saloonkeeper Converts Dram Shop Into Dry Goods Store Because He Was Afraid of Children.

A saloonkeeper recently closed out his business and opened a small dry goods store instead. "One of his acquaintances, knowing that he was exchanging a good income for a very limited one, remonstrated with him. "I can't help it, Jim," said the saloonkeeper, "my children are growing up and they began to ask questions about the liquor business that I couldn't answer without being ashamed before them. They didn't like to see their father selling whisky, they said. I'd rather be in a poor trade than there's no question about, and be able to look my children in the face."

## Money to Labor.

When 10,000 persons spend \$200,000 for liquor, only \$8,120 goes to labor, and only \$25,200 to the farmer. If the money was spent for shoes, clothing, food, furniture, and building of new homes, over \$19,000 would go to labor, and over \$120,000 to the farmer or miner, and a great proportion of this money would again come back to labor through the purchase of more shoes, clothing, furniture, hardware, farm machinery, etc.—Kennebec (Me.) Journal.